



*From:*

Walker Lakeshores Landowners Association, Inc.  
100 Walker Lake Road, Shohola, PA 18458

**Your Board of Directors and Officers:**

President: Art Politano  
Vice President: Fran Orth  
Treasurer: Art Politano  
Secretary: Carol Mihail

***Board of Directors***

Mary Iverson  
Charlie Kieselmann  
Frank Dubowski, Jr.  
Pegge Dodge  
Kristine Guardino

Fran Orth  
Rose Murphy  
Kurt Boogertman  
Tom Tate

Art Politano  
Barbara DiMaio  
Andrew Milne  
Carol Mihail

***Inside this issue:***

President's Message..... p. 1  
Calendar of Events.....p. 2  
Office Closings ... .....p. 2  
Social News.....p. 3  
Office News..... p. 3  
Notices .....p. 3  
Accomplishments.....p. 4  
Splash Back .....p. 6  
Check out the website.....p. 7  
Ladies Club .....p. 7

The WLLA newsletter may contain legal notification of information from the Board of Directors and the WLLA office. Please read carefully!

# Echoes From Our Lake



Walker Lakeshores Landowners Association

100 Walker Lake Road, Shohola, Pa. 18458

phone: 570-296-7788

fax: 570-296-4603

email: [wlla@ptd.net](mailto:wlla@ptd.net)

website: [www.walkerlake.com](http://www.walkerlake.com)

November/December 2011

Volume 125

## President's Message

I am taking this wonderful opportunity to wish each and every member of the WLLA Community, (which, of course, encompasses Walker Lake, Pennsylvania Lakeshores, Maple Park and Hinkel Estates), my warmest wishes for the happiest of this holiday season! I am proud to be able to proclaim that our accomplishments have been moving forward in such a tremendously positive way. None of this, of course, would be possible without the ongoing support of the community and the WLLA Board of Directors.

**BRAVO** for a job well done for the 2011 year! Always remember, positiveness breeds positiveness, and we will continue to move forward in such a way that will only enhance and improve the lives of everyone within the WLLA community.

On another note, where is the snow? I've looked back at past Newsletters and by this time we were already into the snow season...with snow all around us! Well, we should be thankful it's been a "mild" winter so far, but how long will this last? Remember, though, that when the snow arrives, be PREPARED! Take your time - be careful driving - stay safe - and you'll once again make it through another Shohola winter. How many times do a lot of us say, "Oh, no, I don't want to go through another winter here?" And once again we find ourselves slap dab in the middle of another one. But we make it through another winter, only to find ourselves, in the warmer months, once again saying, "Oh no, I don't want to be here for another winter season!" **Ho! Ho! Ho!** Whatever the case, remember to navigate the snowy roads of WLLA in the safest way possible. Also remember to help any neighbors in "distress" during the winter season. Well, actually, always try to help any of our neighbors in "distress"...no matter the season.

I wish to thank all of you again for your support in making WLLA the place where we want to live. In repeating myself, I wholeheartedly thank the WLLA Board of Directors for a job well done. It is with all of your support, (our neighbors and the Board of Directors), in helping me move forward and making things better for all involved.

## SEASONS GREETINGS!!!

My fondest wishes,

Art W. Politano  
President/WLLA



## WLLA Office Closings

**Please note** that **the office will be closed** on the following days:

Saturday, December 24 through  
January 2, 2012

**Emails will be checked daily during this time. Any items left in the slot in the front door of the office are secure and will be picked up periodically.**

Regular Office hours are  
Tuesday-Saturday, 10 AM – 1 PM

Don't forget that items may be left in  
The slot in the office door (*Not the suggestion box!*) Business may also  
be conducted by mail, e-mail,  
FAX.

**Office Address:**  
100 Walker Lake Road  
Shohola, Pa 18458

Email: [WLLA@ptd.net](mailto:WLLA@ptd.net)

Telephone: (570)296-7788  
**Road/Snow complaint line:**  
**(570) 296-7792**

FAX: (570) 296-4603  
Animal Control: (570) 226-3310  
Security: (845) 656-5274

## Calendar of Events

Saturday, December 17:  
Board of Directors Meeting 10:00 AM

Saturday, December 31:  
New Years Eve Party in the Clubhouse

Saturday, January 21:  
Board of Directors Meeting 10:00 AM



## Community Events

**Friday, Dec 9th: Shohola Twp 2nd  
Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony  
7 pm.**

**Saturday, Dec 10th: Santa at The  
Caboose 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm**



## Social Events by Fran Orth

**New Year's Eve Party:** There will be a New Years Eve Party again this year to ring in 2012! Robert our resident DJ will be here for us. Look for our posters.



### Future Events:

In February, we are planning for another 'two-casinos-in-one-day bus trip.

In May an overnight trip to Dover Delaware to Dover Downs and shopping plus all accommodations.

And we hope to have a trip to Lancaster, Pa. and another trip to Wildwood and Cape May again in the fall.



## News from the WLLA Office

The Walker Lake Office will also be closed whenever the school district closes for poor weather conditions. However, the snow line (296-7792) will be monitored throughout the storm. Please use this number to report any problems concerning WLLA's road conditions.

**E-Mail Extras** (E-mailed edition only) **can be found at the end of the newsletter.** If you would like your newsletter e-mailed instead of 'snail' mailed, send an email to [WLLA@ptd.net](mailto:WLLA@ptd.net) with 'newsletter' in the subject line and your name in the body of the message.

**Call (570) 296-7792 to report any snow plowing issues.**

### NOTICE

**In the city, there are storm sewers to take care of storm water. In the country, we have culverts and ditches to take care of our drainage. Both methods are a way to drain excess rain and ground water. It is very important for the maintenance of roads and for the health of the lake that we keep the culverts and ditches clean of leaves and other debris so that the water drains properly. Please help by keeping your leaves out of these areas so that they function properly.**

# Accomplishments of the Board and its Committees

## *Many Thanks to All!*

The Walker Lakeshores Landowners Association Board of Directors and Officers and committees work behind the scenes for our community saving our property owners the cost of a communality manager and clubhouse manager.

### **Lake Committee by Peter Wulforth**

This was a good year for our lake, but we were provided with some challenges. The combination of abundant precipitation with the pipeline work upstream of Walker Lake created high levels of nutrients in the lake. This resulted in a small blue-green algae and growth of water shield and water lilies. The aquatic plants were treated by our lake consultant. Other water quality parameters including dissolved oxygen, nitrates and turbidity were within normal limits.

Other work by the lake committee included updating the Walker Lake Dam Emergency Action Plan, the stocking of Walker Lake with largemouth bass and bluegills in early summer, monitoring the Canada Geese population and monitoring the level of Walker Lake to prevent damage to lakefront property owners.

The Lake Committee joined the Road Committee and visited the roads to address the runoff from various roads.

In addition, I attended a program this past summer where there was information from the PA Fish & Boat Commission and US Coast Guard on safety considerations of boat and dock owners on lakes.

### **Social Committee by Fran Orth**

Last year we started off with our New Years Eve Bash in the clubhouse and we had a Super Bowl Party also at the clubhouse. There were several Casino bus trips that were a lot of fun especially our two casinos in one day on Valentine's Day which had a waiting list and could have filled another bus!

Our picnic in July turned out to be a Pizza Plus party, due to the unfortunate fires at the Windy Dog and then Mt. Haven. The food was great and so was the karaoke.

September brought our Wildwood and Cape May trip which was a fabulous deal due to Senior Excursions making it very affordable.

Snow cancelled our Halloween party.

We are always trying to do new things and will continue to do so. Any suggestions are welcome!

### **Beach and Grounds Committee**

Kurt Boogertman was appointed by President Politano to head the Beach and Grounds Committee.

Special thanks to volunteer Michael Gamboni for picking up the trash at the beach.

### **Clubhouse Committee by Frank Dubowski**

All exterior doors as well as overhead in breezeway and by side door facing East Shore Drive have been scraped and painted at a cost of less than \$100.00 materials and labor included.

### **Website**

Scott Rando has graciously agreed to administer Walker Lake's website. Jeffrey Seeds did a great job setting it up and Scott has continued that good work and has updated all the information. Many of his award-winning photographs have been added. Scott will gladly take suggestions, photographs or information: Kindly forward same to the office. Check it out at [www.walkerlake.com](http://www.walkerlake.com)

### **SPECIAL MENTION FROM THE PRESIDENT**

It seems we all forget now and then the wonderful office administration we have at WLLA. These are two people we should NEVER forget. Norma Prigge, (Administrative Office Manager), and Mary Agnes Dorney, (Administrative Office Assistant), are the two most important people within the WLLA office. Together, this team of highly dedicated individuals keeps the office running on a very smooth basis throughout their daily activities. They bring with them backgrounds of experience that continue to allow the WLLA office to effectively operate as a Landowners Association should operate - and this is - as a very successful, efficient operation.



I ask you all to join me in thanking Norma and Mary Agnes for all the hard work they put into their duties and responsibilities - not only for our Board members - but especially for you, the members of the WLLA community. The spectacular job they do is an extremely large asset to us all!

Thank you Norma and Mary Agnes for a job superbly well done!

# Splash



# Back

By Jessica Mullin

On October 28th, we collected the last water samples and ended the 2011 monitoring program at Walker Lake. This past season had many ups and downs due to the rainy spring, hot weather in July, and then the extensive rainfall that began in August and persisted through September.

The results of our monitoring reflect these changing conditions and gave us a good picture of what influences water quality in the lake. The water temperatures ranged from a low of 15.8°C in May at the outlet to a high of 28.4°C in July. The lake stratified in June at a depth of around 2.5 meters or 6.6 feet, which is earlier than what has been observed in previous years. Because the lake stratified portions of the lake deeper than 6.6 feet

were unable to support fish. Therefore a large portion of the lake basin was not able to provide habitat for fish, which often causes stress on the fish population.

The pH values remained neutral throughout most the monitoring period, with the highest values occurring in August. In August, the extensive rainfall caused an algal bloom that persisted through the fall. It is not uncommon for pH to increase in response to extensive algal blooms, but pH never reached a value that was considered harmful to the ecology of the lake. The water transparency (Secchi depth) was greatest in May with a Secchi depth of 2.25 meters or 7.4 feet.

Generally, water clarity decreases throughout the summer months when algae blooms are most likely to occur. This was the case this past season as we saw Secchi depth decrease throughout June and July to a low of 1.0 meters in August. Typically, we treat algal growth when the transparency is less than 1.5 meters, but because of the extensive rainfall the treatments were not performed.

Generally the nitrate nitrogen concentrations in Walker Lake remain low (< 1.0 ppm) throughout the monitoring season, while the total phosphate concentrations are higher than what is considered acceptable in natural waters (< 0.01 ppm). In September with all the rainfall, total phosphate concentrations were greater than 3.0 ppm. This indicates that runoff flowing into the lake is most-likely the source of nutrient loading in the lake.

In addition to monitoring water quality, plant and algal growth in the lake is monitored each month. No visible algae or submerged plant growth was observed in May. Watershield is the primary floating plant that appeared in early June along with patches of spatterdock that exist primarily in the southern end of the lake. A planktonic algae bloom occurred in late July and persisted through September. The heaviest algal growth occurred near the inlet, which corresponds to the high total phosphate concentrations we observed throughout this time period. The algae bloom reached its peak in August and September and caused the water clarity to drop to 1.0 meters (3.3 feet). Since these late season algal blooms are becoming more common in Walker Lake, future management of the lake may require use of a chemical algaecide (copper sulfate) to control the blooms.

In August, at the request of several property owners patches of watershield that were restricting access to docks were treated with a chemical herbicide. As always, we have enjoyed working with your Association this past season and look forward to our continued relationship in the future. We always appreciate your questions and comments. So please don't hesitate to let us know what you are thinking. It is your lake and we are challenged to make it the best lake in the Poconos. Stay warm this winter and we look forward to seeing you on the lake in the spring.



***Ed. Note: Jessica Mullin is a consulting ecologist for Ecological Solutions, Inc., the company that WLLA retains to manage the lake.***

## New on Walkerlake.com

Check out our updated website! Scott Rando has done a great job as webmaster. You'll find pictures there of our beautiful community and its people. The website is a handy place to find WLLA's handbook, rules and regulations, deed covenants and by-laws (A/K/A 'The Red Book') as well as the current fee schedule, Board of Directors list and newsletter. There is also a new Lost and Found section: there are several items listed there.

## From the Walker Lake Ladies Club *by Diann Becker*

In a day where it seems everything is done via the internet or the new smart phones and the hustle and bustle of daily life keeps you from knowing whether you are coming or going at times, it's nice to know that there is still a place where people can gather, slow down and relax for just a little while, get to know their neighbors and perhaps get involved in their community if they choose.

Members of the Walker Lake Ladies Club meet at the clubhouse on Wednesday twice a month. For anyone who might not know what we do, it's a casual atmosphere where we gather to learn from each other and support each other's interests. While some of us sew, others bring their knitting, embroidery or weaving and a few come just to sit and chat for bit. Occasionally we might be working together on a community project. We have been an active group, making "Cool Ties" for the military working in hot climates, ditty bags & pillow cases for Safe Haven and pillowcases for the "Million Pillowcase" project for cancer patients.



Our latest project which the ladies have worked on tirelessly for months – ten 18" dolls, all with a wardrobe filled with clothing and accessories that have been sewed and knitted with love, to be given to less fortunate children this Christmas. (At left is a photo of the club with the dolls and their clothes all wrapped and ready to go.) We look forward to more projects next year. A few ideas that might be on the agenda are quilts for "Project Linus" and wheelchair or walker caddies.

We had fundraisers such as the ever popular Penny Social, proving that unwanted items can almost always be re-purposed rather than ending up in our landfills, and the Sip and Style Tea and Fashion Show with apparel supplied by the wonderful ladies at Bon Worth in LaFayette, NJ, help us renew funds/supplies so that we may continue to reach those in need. To those who have helped us with these fundraisers or gave so generously, we would like to take this moment to thank you so very much for your support!

For more information, or if you would like to join the Ladies Club, please contact the Walker Lake Office.

# Walker Lake Christmastime Way Back When!





